

Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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UPDATE

Montana State Library

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January 1988

Update No. 1

The face may look familiar but the name is different. With this issue the state library begins a bimonthly update to the Montana State Library News. The Update is the result of an effort to reduce mailing costs and to reduce the amount of mail sent from the State Library to librarians and to library friends. The Update will replace many announcements and reminders that now travel as separate mailings. The regular newsletter will continue as a bimonthly publication.

The deadline for receipt of Title II applications is April 1. Title II grants are awarded for building or remodeling projects. Applications have been mailed to those who expressed interest. Persons who are interested in receiving an application should contact Robert Bayuk at the State Library.

All librarians and library friends are invited to a free workshop; Looking Around: Planning for your library Community. The workshop focuses on how to identify and understand one's library community for the purpose of collection development. The workshop will be offered in three different locations: Missoula on March 24, Lewistown on March 25 and in Glendive on March 26. Libraries must send two member teams; a librarian and a trustee or other non-librarian who is interested in helping the library. Those interested in receiving more information or in attending the workshop should contact Mary Bushing at the State Library.

The deadline for receipt of applications for participation in the school/public library pilot project is April 6. This project gives school libraries in communities insufficiently served by public libraries the opportunity to serve as their communities' public libraries during the pilot year. Applications have been mailed. Libraries which are interested in participating but which have not received an application should contact Sheila Cates at the State Library.

Statewide public meetings on proposed changes to library laws have been scheduled for March. Following are the dates and places for the meetings: Tuesday, March 8, Flathead County Library, Kalispell; Wednesday, March 9, Missoula Public Library, Missoula; Monday, March 14, Parmlly Billings Library, Billings; Tuesday, March 15, Miles Community College, Miles City; Wednesday, March 16, Roosevelt County Library, Wolf Point; Thursday, March 17, Havre-Hill County Library, Havre and Tuesday, March 22, Montana State Library, Helena. Specific law changes to be discussed are mentioned in the October and in the December Montana State Library News.

A new way to share information and communicate is now accessible to Montana schools. Goliath is the Office of Public Instruction's new electronic bulletin board system. One of the sections of the board, "LIB-MEDIA" can be used by school librarians to ask library-related questions

of OPI. There are many sections for other fields of education, as well. The board is accessed by a toll-free number so the system will save on long distance phone charges to callers. School librarians and media specialists who are interested in finding out more about Goliath or in gaining access to the system should contact Margy Rolando at OPI, 1300 11th Avenue, 59620, 444-2979.

The statewide Continuing Education Committee has completed its needs-assessment report and long range plan for library continuing education in Montana. Their findings will be presented to the Montana State Library Commission at the commission's February meeting. The ten member committee comprising representatives from all types of libraries, was charged by the commission in 1985 to conduct a needs-assessment project. The committee's findings are a result of surveys to continuing education providers and to library policymakers and support staffs. The committee also held 4 meetings throughout the state to gather input from interested parties.

Twelve volunteer trustees from throughout Montana are reviewing materials for inclusion in a new trustee manual. The new manual will serve as a guide for library trustees in the state. More volunteers are needed to help revise the old manual. Interested trustees should contact Mary Bushing at the State Library.

The 1988 Montana Library Directory will be distributed to all Montana public libraries within the next few weeks. The directory, which lists addresses, phone numbers and librarians for public, school, special, academic and institutional libraries, is available to everyone. The directory also features statistics for Montana public libraries for Fiscal Year 1987. Public libraries will receive copies automatically while all others interested in receiving directories should contact Robert Bayuk at the State Library.

American Library Association President, Margaret Chisholm will speak at the 75th annual Montana Library Association conference in Helena in April. Registration materials for the conference will be sent the last week of February. Financial assistance is available for the April 27-30 conference. Recipients of the \$50 grants will be current MLA members who live more than 50 miles from Helena. Persons receiving the grants must attend the conference.

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Montana Library Directory

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